

8. (Amend) A system according to claim 7, wherein said ~~information device~~ for gathering ~~means information~~ comprises means for automatically reading ~~reads~~ information from checkpoints.

9. (Amend) A system according to claim 7, wherein said checkpoints ~~are comprise~~ devices selected from the group consisting of touch memory buttons, bar codes, magnetic strips, radio frequency transmitters, radio frequency transceivers, ultrasonic transmitters and ultrasonic transceivers.

10. (Amend) A system according to claim 7, wherein said detecting means ~~comprises~~ ~~further comprising~~ a downloader having a reader port that detects placement of a reader within said reader port, wherein said downloader identifies the specific type of reader detected and said downloader implements the proper communication protocol for said specific type of reader to download said gathered information to ~~detection system~~ for detecting when gathered information is ready for downloading into said central computing device.

11. (Amend) A system according to claim 7, wherein said ~~information system~~ for downloading ~~means~~ comprises a downloader coupled to said central computing device by a communication ~~means~~ ~~system~~ -selected from the group consisting of electrical cables, telephone lines, cellular transmission, the Internet, radio frequency transmission and satellite transmission.

12. (Amend) A system according to claim 11, wherein said checkpoints are comprised of touch memory buttons assigned to information about items selected from the group of officers,

incidents, commands and locations.

13. (Amend) A system according to claim 4-7, wherein said checkpoints are comprised of touch memory buttons programmed with information about items selected from the group of officers, incidents, commands and locations.

14. (Amend) A system according to claim 12, wherein said central computing device detects unassigned memory buttons ~~inserted within a touch memory port on said downloader~~ causing said data processing system to request that said memory button be assigned to patrol information.

Please delete claims 15-16 without bias or prejudice.

Please add the following new claim:

35. A system according to claim 10, wherein said detection system comprises a downloader having a reader port that detects placement of a reader within said reader port, wherein said downloader identifies the specific type of reader detected and said downloader implements the proper communication protocol for said specific type of reader to download said gathered information to said central computing device.